

Struct Address

Objective

- Learn basics of data structures
- Learn how memory may be padded within data structures

Review Basics

Here is the basic use of data structures in C:

```
1 // Declare data structure in C using typedef
2 typedef struct {
3     int i;
4     char c;
5     float f;
6 } my_struct_t;
7
8 // Pass data structure as a copy
9 void struct_as_param(my_struct_t s) {
10     s.i = 0;
11     s.c = 'c';
12 }
13
14 // Pass data structure as a pointer
15 void struct_as_pointer(my_struct_t *p) {
16     p->i = 0;
17     p->c = 'c';
18 }
19
20 // Zero out the struct
21 void struct_as_pointer(my_struct_t *p) {
22     memset(p, 0, sizeof(*p));
23 }
```

Padding

1. Use the struct below, and try this sample code

- Note that there may be a compiler error in the snippet below that you are expected to resolve on your own
- Struct should ideally be placed before the `main()` and the `printf()` should be placed inside of the `main()`
- You should use your SJ embedded board because the behavior may be different on a different compiler or the board

2. Now un-comment the `packed` attribute such that the compiler packs the fields together, and print them again.

```
1 typedef struct {
2     float f1; // 4 bytes
3     char c1;  // 1 byte
```

```
4 float f2;
5 char c2;
6 } /*__attribute__((packed))*/ my_s;
7
8 // TODO: Instantiate a struct of type my_s with the name of "s"
9 printf("Size : %d bytes\n"
10        "floats 0x%p 0x%p\n"
11        "chars 0x%p 0x%p\n",
12        sizeof(s), &s.f1, &s.f2, &s.c1, &s.c2);
```

Note:

- Important: In your submission (could be comments in your submitted code), provide your summary of the two print-outs. Explain why they are different, and try to draw conclusions based on the behavior.